

REMARKS

Formal examination of the new Claims herein is requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

1. [Process] A process to cross-link a polymer/elastomer by means of the free radicals formed by the decomposition of a peroxide, wherein one or more copolymers comprising olefin-derived moieties as well as anhydride and/or acid groups is used in a quantity of from 0.05 to 10 per cent by weight of the total composition, with the proviso that if said copolymer is a maleic anhydride-modified polybutadiene, then the compositions do not contain both an elastomer and brass.
2. [Process] A process according to claim 1 wherein the peroxide is used in an amount of from 1 to 5[, preferably from 1.5 to 4,] per cent by weight, based on the weight of the polymer/elastomer.
3. [Process] A process according to claim 1 [or 2] wherein the polymer/elastomer is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins and elastomers[, preferably from the group consisting of polyethylene and ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin copolymers, including ethylene propylene copolymer, ethylene octene copolymer, and ethylene propylene diene copolymer].
4. [Process] A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the copolymer [with] has olefin-derived moieties and anhydride and/or acid groups and has a molecular weight from 500 to 50,000.

5. [Process] A process according to claim 4 wherein the copolymer comprises olefinic units derived from ethylene, propylene, butadiene, isobutylene and/or  $C_6$  to  $C_{24}$  ( $\alpha$ -)olefins[, preferably  $C_{12}$  to  $C_{18}$  olefins, and anhydride/acid groups derived from maleic anhydride, (di)alkyl/aryl-maleic anhydride, (substituted) norbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic anhydride, (meth)acrylic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, itaconic acid and/or citraconic acid, preferably from maleic anhydride or methacrylic acid].

6. [Products obtainable] A product obtained by the process of any one of the preceding claims.

7. [Compositions] A composition comprising [containing]:

- 5-60% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of one or more peroxides,
- 0.1-500% by weight, based on the weight of the peroxide(s), of a copolymer with olefin-derived moieties and anhydride and/or acid groups,
- optional further additives, and
- 0-50% by weight of a carrier material,

which are suitable for use in the process of claim 1.

8. [Composition] A composition according to claim 7 wherein the copolymer has a molecular weight from 500 to 50,000.

9. [Composition] A composition according to claim 7 or 8 wherein the copolymer comprises olefinic units derived from propylene, butadiene, isobutylene and/or  $C_6$  to  $C_{24}$   $\alpha$ -olefins[, preferably  $C_{12}$  to  $C_{18}$  olefins, and anhydride/acid groups derived from maleic anhydride;

(di)alkyl/aryl-maleic anhydride; such as n-dodecylmaleic anhydride, citraconic anhydride, and maleic phenyl anhydride; (substituted) norbornene-2,3-dicarboxylic anhydride; (meth)acrylic acid; maleic acid; fumaric acid; itaconic acid and/or citraconic acid, preferably from maleic anhydride or methacrylic acid].

10. [Composition] A composition according to any one of claims 7-9 wherein the copolymer is obtained from monomer mixtures comprising 5-75% by weight of anhydride/acid group-containing monomers.

11. [Composition] A composition containing 1-99.9% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of conventional additives and/or conventional carrier materials and 99-0.1% by weight, based on the weight of the composition, of a copolymer with olefin-derived moieties and anhydride and/or acid groups, up to a total of 100%, which are suitable for use in the process of claim 1.